



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Joins with Latino Organizations to Encourage Eligible Californians to Register and Vote

Announces mailing to communicate with voters affected by intimidation attempt

SANTA ANA, CA – Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today joined with several Latino organizations including, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) to announce that he will be issuing an official, non-partisan voter education letter to Latino voters who recently received a letter attempting to intimidate them.

“I want all eligible voters in California to cast their votes without fear or misinformation. I am outraged that anyone would try to rob eligible Californians of their right to vote. Any attempt to intimidate voters is unacceptable,” Secretary McPherson said.

The letter will be sent out next week and will go to each voter affected by the recent attempt to intimidate voters in Orange County. It will contain information regarding the laws for voting eligibility and participation. The letter will meet all the legal requirements for state mailings and will not contain the name or signature of Secretary McPherson.

Secretary McPherson, NALEO, NCLR, and MALDEF also encouraged all eligible Californians who have not done so to register by October 23rd (next Monday) and vote in the upcoming November 7, 2006 General Election.

“I want every eligible Californian to register and vote in the November 7, 2006 General Election,” Secretary McPherson said. “There is no day like Election Day because we are all equal when we cast our votes.”

Secretary McPherson also partnered with NALEO and La Opinion in September to insert over 350,000 registration cards in La Opinion. The insertion was part of Voter Education and Participation Month in an effort to create strategic partnerships to reach out to all Californians and encourage all eligible voters to participate in the electoral process.

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To encourage voter registration and participation, Secretary McPherson is working with thousands of public and private sector partners to provide eligible voters with the opportunity to register to vote before the October 23 deadline. Partners include: multi-lingual and minority organizations, small businesses, large corporations, industry trade associations, education/youth groups and more.

For more information about voter registration and voting, please visit the Secretary of State's web site at: www.ss.ca.gov, or call 1-800-345-VOTE (8683).